

May 2008
NORTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

DPS/Highway Patrol Division
Major Tony Almaraz

Overview

During this month of May 2008, the Northern Command saw an overall increase in traffic accidents for the region as compared to last month. While the increase was slight, it does indicate the beginning of our summer month travel season. Unfortunately, we also experienced an increase in the number of fatal crashes on our highways of responsibility that resulted in 6 people being killed. The crashes occurred in multiple areas both rural and urban. No trend or significance is associated with the crashes other than non-seat belt usage.

Monthly citation and traffic stop activity was increased significantly. Most notably was the increase in hazardous moving and seatbelt restraint violations.

Understandably, there is a desire to have 100% compliance with seatbelts, but our enforcement shows that the education through traffic stops will hopefully make an impact. The trooper working in the Carson Minden tahoe area are to be commended for their extra diligence in detecting seatbelt non-compliance. Some of the added diligence still remains under the very successful WASP program. This program is also expanding to the Lake Tahoe area for the summer months activity.

DUI enforcement was at down just threee (3) from last month but crashes from DUI's were up as well which is the unfortunate reality to these uncertainties. More target enforcement will be done in the core areas of IR-80 and the IR-580 corridor.

Commercial enforcement showed some dramatic increases this month as compared to the past several. Some of the increase is attributed to less training being conducted and instructors needed for outside entities and inter-departmental assistance. It is anticipated that the scales for the WIM will be returned from overseas where they were being fixed.

Overall, the activity from the northern command remained respectable, with some impressive numbers in critical categories. Obviously, there is a desire to reduce the number of crashes and the severity that follows some of them. As the summer months continue, there are several returning events that we are anticipating and will be prepared to deal with on a public safety level.

The men and women of the northern command are to be commended for a job well done. They are committed to serving this community and the visitors of this state in the most professional way possible.

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NORTHERN COMMAND

NORTHERN COMMAND CRASH STATISTICS OVERVIEW

0	May 08	May 07 -07	% Change	April 08	% Change
Total Crashes	276	312	-11.5%	263	+4.9%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	188	202	-6.9%	176	+6.8%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	83	106	-21.7%	84	-1.2%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	5	4	+25.0%	2	+150.0%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	22	17	+29.4%	8	+175.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	6	1	+500.0%	2	+200.0%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	1	1	0.00%	1	0.00%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	0	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	3	0	+300.0%	0	+300.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	1	0	+100.0%	1	0.00%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	1	0	+100.0%	0	+100.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	17	25	-32.0%	18	-5.6%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	13	17	-23.5%	16	-18.8%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	3	5	-40.0%	3	0.00%
Fatal Crashes Involving Commercial Vehicles	1	0	+100.0%	0	+100.0%

NORTHERN COMMAND FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	May-08		May -07	% Change		April 08	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes ##	22		17	+29.4%		8	+175.0%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ##	121		113	+7.1%		123	-1.6%
Other Arrests	574		549	+4.6%		537	+6.9%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) ##	260		248	+4.8%		248	+4.8%
Speed violations	2280		2447	-6.8%		2566	-11.1%
Hazardous moving violations	907		771	+17.6%		716	+26.7%
Occupant restraint violations * ##	710		412	+72.3%		459	+54.7%
Total violations [above violations included]	9180		6217	+46.5%		6300	+44.6%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations-citations/arrests	21		39	-46.15%		17	+23.52%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	21		35	-40.00%		12	+75.00%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	696		752	-7.44%		778	-10.53%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only			0	0.00%		0	0.00%
Total safety violations -- citation	350		306	+14.37%		35	+900.00%
Total safety violations -- repair order	2127		2654	-19.85%		1986	+7.099%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	88		122	-27.86%		77	+14.28%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	77		88	-12.5%		65	+18.46%
Total school buses inspected			0	0.00%		209	-100.00%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"			0	0.00%		17	-100.00%
Total trucks weighed	127		1226	-89.64%		171	-25.73%
Total overweight citations	30		43	-30.23%		37	-18.91%
Total dyed fuel inspections	381		485	-21.44%		955	-60.10%
Total dyed fuel citations	1		3	-66.66%		0	

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	May 2008	May 2007	% Change	April 2008	% Change
COMMUNICATION CENTER					
Radio Transmissions from Console	283169	434724	-34.86%	477103	-40.65%
CAD Incidents	17925	13941	+28.58%	19279	-7.02%
Telephone Calls	16950	19023	-10.90%	17518	-3.24%
CAD Logs	148605	115218	+28.98%	155359	-4.35%
FRONT OFFICE					
Accident Reports Processed	266	293	-9.22%	276	-3.62%
Arrest Reports Processed	235	212	+10.85%	259	-9.27
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	33	13	+153.85%	33	0.00%
Office Accident Reports Taken	6	14	-57.14%	6	0.00%
Citations Processed	4092	3320	+23.25%	3351	+22.81%
Vehicle Impound Releases	4	2	+100.00%	0	+100%
Visitors at Counter	60	-	-	82	-26.83%
Crash Reports Mailed Out	\$720.00	\$975.50	-26.19%	\$885.50	-18.69%
COURT / WARRANT					
Warrants Received	538	429	+25.40%	733	-26.60%
Warrants Entered	163	261	-37.55%	246	-33.74%
Warrants Cleared	252	302	-16.55%	521	-51.63%
Warrants Validated	2618	2556	+2.43%	2936	-10.83%
Extradition / Transports	15	23	-48.28%	20	-25.00%
EVIDENCE					
New Cases Submitted	-	-	%	64	%
New Items Submitted	-	-	%	88	%
Items Disposed	-	-	%	19	%

IMPAIRED DRIVER ANALYSIS

- Average BAC .153%
- Average age of DUI arrestees, 34 years old

CONTRACT SERVICES

- Three (3) Contracts using hours 17 hours, billed in the amount of \$1,100.92.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Phone Activity	Press Releases	Media Interview/TV	PIEO Meetings	Accident Response
510	9	14	0	8

Website E-Mail Traffic	E-Mail Responses	Public Relations Projects	News Articles Total	Proactive News Articles	Reactive News Articles
76	439	16	6	2	5

Additional Appearances, Events and Meetings:

- May 17th-fund raiser for Special Olympics Nevada labeled “Cops & Burgers”. The four-hour event that was sponsored by Save Mart and Terrible’s Car Wash generated \$5,300 dollars that will stay in our community to benefit the special athletes and their sports programs.
- This month was dedicated to the “Teen Click it or Ticket” program. With assistance from the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety, additional Troopers provided overtime shifts to enforce the important seat belt law. To enhance the awareness and educational aspects for this campaign, the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) mobile display trailer was taken to a number of high schools in the Reno-Sparks area.
- Attended a Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) in Cold Springs, briefed on current traffic conditions including the reduction of accident from 2006 to 2007 located between Bordertown and Reno.
- Attended a middle school career day in Lovelock.
- Gave a 60 minute traffic safety presentation at the annual American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) driving instructor’s course in Reno. Topics included common contributing accident causing violations to reporting an impaired driver were some of the agenda items discussed.
- Completed a number of traffic safety interviews to include seat belts and the importance of designating a sober driver.
- Safety fair at Lowe’s Home Improvement on Kietzke Lane in Reno. The Seat Belt Convincer trailer was also part of the event giving the patrons an opportunity to learn and see more about the importance of seat belts.

CARSON/TAHOE/MINDEN

The Carson/Tahoe/Minden District (CTM) investigated 71 accidents this month. This number was down 25.5% compared to May 2007. The most significant decrease was the number of injury accidents with only sixteen (16). This number compares to thirty-seven (37) in May 2007 and twenty-eight (28) in April 2008. This was a decrease of 56.8%.

Troopers assigned to the CTM worked hard and conducted two thousand forty-seven (2047) traffic stops. This number compares to nine hundred and seventy-eight (978) in May 2007 and one thousand eight hundred and ten (1810) in April 2008. This was an increase in enforcement efforts of 109.3%.

RENO URBAN OPERATIONS

The Reno area's traffic crashes remained the same. There were one hundred forty two (142) total crashes this month, the same as last month. DUI crashes increased substantially. There were eighteen (18) DUI crashes this month compared to five (5) last month. This increase took place even though DUI arrests for the month of May increased. Reno Urban Traffic investigated nine (9) crashes involving commercial vehicles this month.

Total enforcement remained relatively the same with two thousand six hundred thirty seven (2637) as compared to two thousand six hundred sixty eight (2668) violations last month. Reno Urban had a total of eight-eight (88) DUI arrests prior to crashes this month compared to eighty-two (82) last month for an increase of 12%.

Speed violations decreased by 29% at six hundred forty one (641) in April compared to nine hundred thirteen (913) in April 2008. Occupant restraint violations increased 61% at two hundred twenty five (225) as compared to one hundred thirty nine (139) in April. Hazardous moving violations increased 17% at three hundred fifteen (315) as compared to two hundred sixty eight (268) in April of this year.

FERNLEY/YERINGTON

Currently the Fernley & Yerington area is staffed with eight (8) Troopers and one (1) Sergeant. On April 1st, 2008, Lovelock was removed from the Fernley area and reassigned under Fallon. Due to the three (3) senior Troopers being involved in the PSTO training, the removal of the Lovelock stats and the Aircraft not being utilized the statistics for this area show a substantial decrease in enforcement compared to last year. However, this area did have an increase in enforcement of 22% over last month. There were no special enforcement programs run this month due to training and man hours lost.

FALLON/LOVELOCK

The Fallon/Lovelock area is currently staffed with nine (9) Troopers and one (1) Sergeant.

There were twenty six (26) crashes handled during the month of May, an 8.3% or two (2) crash increase as compared to last month, and a 36.8% increase as compared last year. There were four (4) office reports recorded by the Fallon Troopers. Fallon productivity increased 26.3% as compared to last month.

Road construction continues on US 50 Alternate, with no crashes occurring within the construction zone for the month of May. The highway is expected to fully open at the end of June.

HAWTHORNE

The Hawthorne District is allocated five (5) traffic positions. This includes four (4) Troopers and one (1) Sergeant. For the month of May the District was staffed with four (4) total positions.

The Hawthorne District handled eight (8) crashes within the district. Six (6) crashes were property damage in nature, and two (2) were injury. There were no DUI related crashes. Field Enforcement for the Hawthorne District was down to two hundred seventy two (272) violations from last months two hundred ninety nine (299), and up over last years two hundred twenty nine (229). This months traffic stops were down from three hundred seventy seven (377) from last month compared to four hundred and four (404) in April.

There were four (4) DUI arrests prior to crash. Occupant restraints violations were up one (1) and hazardous moving violations were up by eight (8) over last month. Commercial vehicle inspections by traffic officers were up to twenty two (22) from nineteen (19) last month.

There is a large construction zone south of Hawthorne that is expected to last thru the end of the summer. Traffic patterns have been affected by the construction, with larger grouping of traffic. There will a greater emphasis on hazardous moving violations over the summer. The district will continue to make visible enforcement stops to keep accidents to a minimum in and around the construction.

The Hawthorne District participated in a mock crash and substance abuse and driving assembly at the high school, with positive responses by the students and the community.

TONOPAH

The Tonopah District is authorized six (6) positions consisting of one (1) Sergeant and five (5) Troopers. This district continues to operate with one (1) Trooper vacancy.

This district investigated six (6) crashes, a decrease of one (1) crash over last month and down seven (7) crashes compared to last year. Four (4) of the six (6) crashes were property damage. Two (2) crashes resulted from animals being struck, one (1) from weather, one (1) speed and two (2) from driver inattention.

Again, district personnel did an excellent job with enforcement activity during the month. There were six hundred sixty nine (669) traffic stops and five hundred and ten (510) citations issued. Total violations were seven hundred fourteen (714), an increase of 8.2% over last month and a 9.6% decrease compared to last year. This is outstanding considering the District was staffed with only six (6) Troopers last year.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSE TEAM (SIRT)

The Northern Command had five (5) fatal crashes during the month of May. There was a crash on IR 80 / mile marker LY04. This accident occurred when V-1 was traveling eastbound on IR80. V-2 was traveling eastbound on IR 80, behind V-1. D-1 turned left, in an attempt to make a u-turn through the median. The front of V-2 struck the left side of V-This was a non-prosecution crash. We investigated a crash that occurred on IR80 / Pyramid. This crash occurred when V-1 was traveling eastbound on IR 80, exiting at the off ramp for Pyramid Highway. V-2 was stopped at the bottom of the off ramp, at a red light. D-1 failed to slow in time and struck the rear of V-2 with the front of V-1. D-1 was transported from the scene and later died from injuries sustained. This too was a non-prosecution crash. We investigated a fatal crash that occurred on US 395 / Leviathan. This crash occurred when V-1 was traveling southbound on US 395. V-2 was traveling northbound on US 395, approaching V-1. D-1 crossed into the northbound lane, and struck V-2's front with the front of V-1. Both passengers of V-1 were pronounced deceased at the scene. This was a prosecution crash. Another crash occurred on US 95A / Ly 37. This crash occurred when V-1 was traveling northbound on US 95A near LY 3. D-1 allowed V-1 to drift off the east road edge, where it overturned. D-1 suffered fatal injuries and was declared deceased at the scene. This was a non-prosecution crash. The last crash occurred on US 95 / Ly 02. This accident occurred when V-1 was traveled off the east road edge and overturned. D-1 was ejected during the time in which V-1 overturned and was declared deceased at the scene. This was a non-prosecution crash.

COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT

Currently, this section has twenty-two (22) assigned positions. During the month of May, the commercial section has maintained three (3) vacant Trooper positions and one (1) vacant CVSI position.

The Northern Command Commercial Section CVSI's have completed the first bi-annual school bus inspections, prior to the end of April 2008. Both CVSI's are currently out on FMLA or light duty.

With the above events and vacancies, the "total hours worked" in May showed an increase of nearly 2.2%. This increase was a direct result in an increase of leave and overtime. The increase in overtime was due to the Trooper/Trucker Challenge. Three (3) check-sites were held this past month. The WIMS (Weight-In-Motion) scales were still being repaired in Switzerland and the Region did not receive them back until the end of May. Commercial will be running several check-sites in June, in which the WIMS will be used to make up the truck weights lost in May.

Along with the traffic control assist, the Commercial Enforcement Section handled three (3) property damage collisions and one (1) injury collision, of which one was involving a commercial motor vehicle. The section also assisted the traffic section on nineteen (19) other collisions; five (5) of these collisions involved commercial motor vehicles.

The Northern Command Commercial Section had planned for its sixth and final S.T.E.P. trip this Federal Fiscal year to the Southern Command area. However, this trip was cancelled and the entire S.T.E.P. program has been temporarily suspended due to the rising fuel prices.

This section hosted a Cargo Tank inspection course with four (4) commercial personnel attending. This class will assist in obtaining our required fiscal goal, set by the 2007-2008 CVSP, for Level I and Level II/III Hazardous material inspections.

The Northern Command Commercial Section held the first nationwide Brake Check 2008. During this 12-hour enforcement shift, a total of ninety-seven (97) commercial vehicles and five (5) buses were inspected. A total of twelve (12) vehicles were placed out of service.

The Commercial Troopers participated in the 2008 Nevada Truckers Challenge. These Troopers were judges in the pre-trip competition. At the same time and location, four (4) DPS/Highway Patrol Troopers and two (2) CVSI's, participated in the Nevada State Trooper Challenge competition. This year's Trooper Challenge was won by a Northern Command Commercial Trooper and the runner-up was a CVSI from the Central Command area.

With the rising fuel costs, the Northern Command Commercial Section is looking into different options and other methods to save both overtime and the consumption of excess fuel.

INTERAGENCY CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM (ICE)

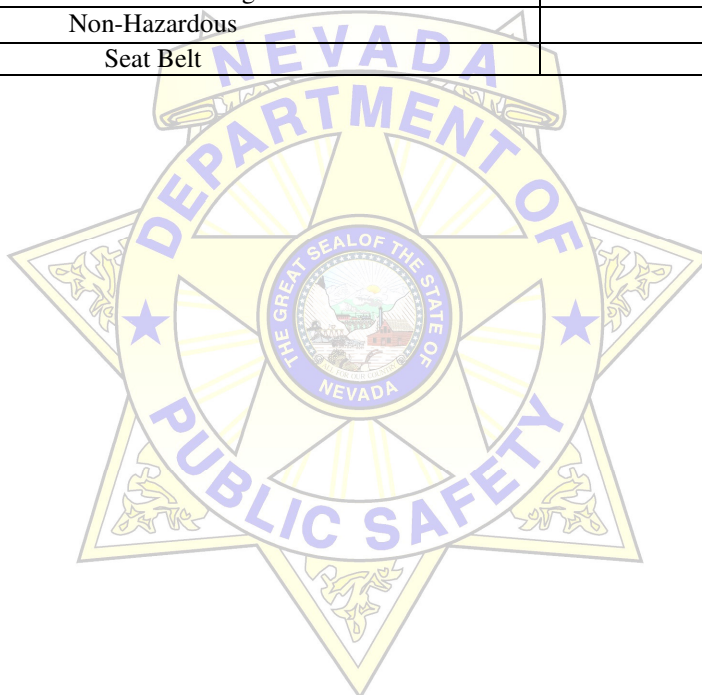
The ICE Team is currently staffed with two (2) Troopers and one (1) Sergeant. Vacancies exist for positions from the Division of Investigation and the Parole and Probation Division. Total lost hours for this month were 411.75. Much of the lost time was due to training (216), travel (52) and leave (76.25). This is in addition to the 30 hours lost to being off on the holiday.

Field enforcement activities included one (1) traffic stop which resulted in a seizure of three hundred ninety eight (398) grams (.88 lbs) of Methamphetamine and the arrest of one (1) individual. Another traffic stop resulted in the seizure of \$48,360.00 US currency in conjunction with the arrest of one (1) individual for PCS Marijuana for Sales and forty three (43) grams of Marijuana seized. Two (2) other traffic stops led to the arrests of subjects for misdemeanor warrants and a DUI.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

The Northern Command aircraft was in Lincoln, Ca. for new paint and interior replacement, the plane was picked up May 30. On May 31, the plane was on static display at the Stead airport for the NMTA truck competition. Total flight time for the month was 1.7 hours.

Type of Violation	Enforcement Actions
Speed	0
Hazardous Moving	0
Non-Hazardous	0
Seat Belt	0



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